



PUBLIC HEALTH CONNECTIONS

June - 2015 Volume 15, Issue 6

Bureau of Community Health Systems

Susan Mosier, Secretary

Sam Brownback, Governor

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Kansas Public Health Workforce Assessment Results Available

*by Cristi Cain, Public Health Specialist
Local Health Program, BCHS, KDHE*



In an effort to identify needs and gaps in the Kansas public health workforce, an assessment of the system was conducted. A total of 1,648 respondents completed the assessment with an overall participation rate of 67 percent. Seventy-six percent of the Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) employees and 61 percent, or 875 respondents out of a total of 1,429 of local public health department (LHDs) employees participated in the assessment. The assessment was

based on the, [Council on Linkages Core Competencies for Public Health Professionals](#), and assesses the workforce across eight domains.

Major findings from the assessment are as follows:

- The domain with the lowest proficiency rating across all tiers for both local health departments and KDHE was Public Health Science Skills, with the exception of KDHE Tier 3.
- KDHE had significant percentages of people reporting that competencies in several domains did not apply to their jobs, which is significantly higher in comparison with local health departments:
 - ◆ Cultural competence: Tier 1 - 43 percent; Tier 2 - 33 percent; Tier 3 - 20 percent
 - ◆ Public Health Sciences: Tier 1 - 50 percent; Tier 2 - 42 percent; Tier 3 - 22 percent
 - ◆ Community Dimensions of Practice: Tier 1 - 49 percent; Tier 2 - 34 percent; Tier 3 - 22 percent
- Significant percentages of LHD and KDHE staff reported that the competencies in the Financial Planning and Management Skills domain do not apply to their jobs, Tier 1 - 64 percent for LHDs; Tier 1 - 51 percent of KDHE.
- There is a significant percentage of the workforce close to retirement age with a limited number of new, young staff entering the workforce.
- With the exception of some specific communities, the race and ethnicity demographics of the workforce are not similar in percentage to those of the state, especially for KDHE
- Respondents indicated interest in a public health certificate program but no specifics were defined. For local health departments, 38 percent reported definite interest and 31 percent were unsure.
- The Northwest region of counties was the area of the state with self-reported lower proficiency scores than most other regions across all domains, especially for Tier 1.
- For respondents in Tier A, the question with the lowest percentage of responses in the agree/strongly group was: "Employees are continually developed through training, education, and opportunities for promotion," KDHE - 51.52 percent, LHDs - 66.67 percent, which was lowest overall for both. Additionally, KDHE and LHDs had a low percentage of agree/strongly agree for "Training is implemented as part of an overall system of employee development," KDHE - 66.67 percent, LHDs - 68.14 percent.

The Kansas Public Health Workforce Development Coordinating Council is currently in the process of prioritizing the results, developing recommendations, and pursuing opportunities designed to address the identified needs and gaps.

To obtain a copy of the executive summary and/or a full report of the statewide results, go to http://www.kdheks.gov/olrh/workforce_development.htm. If you would like further information about the Kansas Public Health Workforce Assessment, please contact Cristi Cain at ccain@kdheks.gov or 785-296-3641.

KDHE Local Public Health Website Adds Nuisance Resources

*by Teri Caudle, Public Health Nurse Specialist
Local Public Health Program, BCHS, KDHE*



When you are looking for resources don't forget the Local Public Health webpage, http://www.kdheks.gov/olrh/local_health.html. Nuisance resources have recently been added to the website, http://www.kdheks.gov/olrh/ph_nuisance_resources.htm and the 2015 regional meetings calendar has been updated. In addition the Kansas Public Health Directory with contact information for the local health departments is continually updated.

In the Spotlight - Lawrence-Douglas County Health Department Awarded National Accreditation

*by Jane Shirley, Director, Population Health Center &
Local Public Health Program, BCHS, KDHE*



The Kansas public health community salutes Lawrence-Douglas County Health Department in achieving national accreditation through the [Public Health Accreditation Board \(PHAB\)](#). The national accreditation program works to improve and protect the health of the public by advancing the quality and performance of the nation's public health departments. "By receiving accredited status, the health department has reached an important milestone," Director Dan Partridge said. "Our pursuit of accreditation has always been grounded in service to our community and the belief that by becoming accredited we would increase our understanding of local health concerns, strengthen our community partnerships and ultimately achieve better health outcomes."

"Achieving accreditation indicates that the Lawrence-Douglas County Health Department is dedicated to improving and protecting the health of the community by striving to continuously improve the quality of the services it delivers," said Leslie M. Beitsch, chair of PHAB's Board of Directors and chair of the Department of Behavioral Sciences and Social Medicine at Florida State University College of Medicine. "Accreditation also promotes consistency in meeting standards. With an ever-increasing number of health departments now applying for and becoming accredited, you will be able to expect to receive the same quality of public health services wherever you go in the United States."

Click [here](#) to read the complete article on the Lawrence-Douglas County Health Department's achievement.

In the Spotlight - Schoenfeld to Retire as Logan County Health Department Administrator

by the Logan County Health Department Staff



Public Health
Prevent - Promote - Protect
LOGAN COUNTY

Please join the Logan County Health Department staff for an open house Friday, June 26 from 2-4 p.m. in honor of Georgetta Schoenfeld's upcoming retirement. After 28 years as the Logan County Health Department Administrator, Georgetta will say good bye June 30 to her staff and the community. Schoenfeld received her BSN degree from Fort Hays State University in 1965 and worked at the Logan County Hospital and Colby Community College before accepting the job as health department administrator.

The Logan County Health Department currently employs one fulltime and two part-time nurses, an office manager and Schoenfeld. That is a big change from when Georgetta started out with only one other person to help her after Paula Marchbanks retired. The health department now offers many services in coordination with other local health departments and grant programs. Services provided by the department include immunizations for all ages, physicals for daycare, preschool and school entry, family planning in partnership with the Thomas County Health Department and New Frontiers Health Services, and the Women, Infant and Children nutrition program sponsored by the Sherman County Health Department.

Georgetta has served on numerous boards over the years. Probably one of the most important board positions was serving as a member of the Kansas Association of Local Health Departments. She has been a voice for the small health departments in order for the Kansas public health system to understand and recognize the needs of citizens in rural communities. Georgetta has served on the Local Emergency Preparedness Committee, Local Environmental Protection Group, Head Start Advisory Board, Public Educators Program, Kansas Association of Counties and the West Central Public Health Initiative. She has taught Chronic Disease Self-Management Program classes, organized Movie Critics Night, been actively involved with Walk Kansas, spearheads the health department's annual health fair and supervises numerous flu clinics.

Georgetta is currently overseeing [Healthy Logan County](#) which is a community health assessment team. She has always looked at what the community's needs are and has set about to try and provide for those needs. The health department has been an example to other agencies on providing care for the community's elderly. The Logan County Health Department is not licensed by Medicare to be a home health facility, so they have had to think outside the box in providing services to the elderly. These visits were started when Dr. Ohmart asked Georgetta to go into the homes and assess patients he was concerned about. Logan County does not have assisted living, so the health department is trying to fill that gap by providing in home visits by Registered Nurses to provide medication services and to act as a liaison between patient and medical provider. Patients must pay for this service, but if the health department can keep the patient out of the hospital, this reduces cost for everyone.

The health department will greatly miss Georgetta's leadership and knowledge and wish her the very best in her retirement. Please don't miss the opportunity to tell Georgetta thank you for all her years of service to the Logan County community and public health in Kansas.

2nd Quarter Regional Public Health Meetings Conclude June 9

*by Teri Caudle, Public Health Nurse Specialist,
Local Public Health Program, BCHS, KDHE*



Don't miss the opportunity to attend one of the upcoming regional public health meetings aimed to connect local health departments (LHD) with programs and best practices that will benefit the work you do within your communities. These meetings are designed for the local LHD administrator; however, any staff person interested in a particular topic is welcome to attend. Register on KS-TRAIN <http://ks.train.org>, Course ID, #1056413.

The agenda includes the following: EpiTrax Upcoming Changes and trainings; Kansas HPV Vaccination Project: Working Together to Protect Our Youth; Population Monitoring in the Aftermath of a Radiation Incident.

The dates and locations are:

June 3 – Beloit (NC)

June 9 – Topeka (NE)

If you have ideas for regional meeting topics please contact Teri Caudle at tcaudle@kdheks.gov.

Ebola Treatment Presentation - June 22

by the Bureau of Epidemiology and Public Health Informatics, KDHE



Be sure to join us at the Topeka and Shawnee County Public Library on Monday, June 22, 7 p.m. for a presentation on frontline experiences in the battle to treat Ebola patients in West Africa. Kansas Department of Health and Environment's own Joseph Scaletta (BEPHI) will be speaking about his experiences and the challenges the treatment unit faced.

Health Professionals Partner With KDHE to Offer Dental Tooth Brush Kits

*by Dr. Cathleen M. Taylor-Osborne, Director
Bureau of Oral Health, KDHE*



Jennifer Ferguson, in partnership with Bureau of Family Health/Child Care Licensing and Kathy Hunt, Kansas Head Start, traveled to Garden City to visit home daycare centers to provide tooth brush kits, oral health instructions and provide dental screenings for children. The tooth brush kits were compiled by Child Care Licensing and instructional modules were formulated by Kathy Hunt. Jennifer visited close to 20 day care centers in Garden City and surrounding counties. Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) agencies greatly appreciate the recent opportunity to partner with Head Start to make this project a reality!

Dr. Taylor-Osborne, Director, Bureau of Oral Health, KDHE; Denise Cyzman, Director, Kansas Association for the Medically Underserved and Kathy Hunt, Director, Kansas Head Start Association presented, "The Landscape of Oral Health in Kansas" at the Governor's Public Health Conference in Wichita. A group of 45 plus composed of social workers, nurses and local health departments attended to hear what these agencies are doing regarding projects, activities, collaborations and partnerships across Kansas in oral health. Presenters offered handouts and gave resources for anyone to access when they have a question regarding an oral health issue.

If you have questions on the oral health kits or any of the other program services of the Bureau of Oral Health contact Jennifer Ferguson at 785-291-3683 or jferguson@kdheks.gov.

Here's What You Should Know About Sunscreen

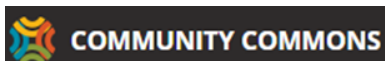
from JAAD and CDC



Summer is around the corner, and when it comes to sunscreen, it's important to know how to stay covered. Yet new research published in the Journal of the American Academy of Dermatology shows that many Americans aren't protecting their skin as much as they should. Researchers from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) asked people how often they use sunscreen when out in the sun for over an hour and only 14 percent of men said they regularly slathered on sunscreen. Women, at 30 percent, were twice as diligent about putting on sunscreen—while men were more likely than women to report never using sunscreen. CDC has sun [safety tips](#), fast facts about skin cancer, posters and other education materials that can be shared with your family and clients. Click the logo above to download the Protect All the Skin You're In, infographic.

How to Use the Economic Data from Community Commons

from the Community Commons Website



Those working to improve communities know that economics plays a big part in a person's overall health. People living in or near poverty have difficulty accessing affordable housing, healthy food, consistent medical care, and basic transportation. Community Commons has the data and tools you need to assess your community's economic health and start addressing the factors the can improve the lives of citizens.

A number of factors influence on community's economic situation. The Economy channel captures the breadth and depth of the issue by highlighting stories and data that speak to economy. Explore [this space](#) as an introduction.

March of Dimes Rolls Out Kansas Resource Site Connects Pregnant Women to Medicaid, WIC

by Megan Hart, Topeka Capital Journal



The March of Dimes has rolled out a website to connect pregnant women in Kansas to resources that increase the odds their babies will be born healthy.

The Becoming a Mom portal connects visitors to information about Medicaid; the Women, Infants and Children nutrition program; the tobacco quitline; and the Pregnancy and Postpartum Resource Center of Kansas, among other things.

Jennifer Robinson, spokeswoman for March of Dimes, said the idea was to concentrate information about how improve women's and babies' health in one place. "It's getting them connected with the resources that can help them have a healthy pregnancy," she said. "Getting them access to medical care and good nutrition is one of the first ways to do that."

Women who don't receive prenatal health care or who have physical or emotional stressors are more likely to have a premature or low-birthweight baby than women with better access to care and more support, according to the National Institutes of Health. Babies who are born too early or too small are at higher risk for lifelong disabilities than full-term infants.

Health care providers also can use the site to connect their patients to resources, while public health agencies can use it to find information on things like setting up programs offering pregnant women incentives for completing education and getting prenatal care, Robinson said.

The Amerigroup Foundation gave \$20,000 to establish the website. The Kansas Department of Health and Environment and March of Dimes are hosting programs in counties with a comparatively large number of births and high socioeconomic need: Saline, Geary, Riley, Pottawatomie, Crawford, Wyandotte, Reno and Lyon.

To view resources for mothers, visit <http://tinyurl.com/l4qjfox>.

Filtered Milk and Milk-Based Beverages Have Sought-After Benefits

by Marley Sugar, Health & Wellness Program Manager
Midwest Dairy Council



Milk is already widely recognized as a nutrient-rich food, but membrane filtration technology, developed by scientists at Dairy Food Research Centers, gives processors the ability to not only remove lactose, but to fractionate and concentrate the components milk has to offer – such as its texture, taste, protein and calcium content. This technology takes milk apart and puts it back together to form new products. That's a powerful application to help meet consumer desires – whether they're looking to refuel after a workout or to include more calcium and protein in their meals.

Dairy Food Research Centers across the country have been developing such filtered milks and milk-based beverages using membrane filtration technology, and they're willing to assist companies with product development. Two such beverages are Core Power high-protein muscle recovery shake and fairlife® ultra-filtered milk. Cold filtration technology allows the concentration of protein and calcium, while filtering out fat and sugars. There are no added protein powders. Other advantages include:

- More nutrition per calorie than most regular milks, which may appeal to older adults who have reduced energy needs
- Fat-free versions have the texture and mouth feel of higher-fat milk
- An extended shelf life may appeal to those with smaller households, which helps reduce waste

The future for fluid milk innovation is bright, and we can look forward to the development of even more milk-based beverages that will nourish and benefit people. Click the logos for more information.



Summer Food Service Program - Because Hunger Doesn't Take a Vacation

by the Child Nutrition and Wellness Program, KSDE



Just as learning does not end when school lets out, neither does the need for good nutrition. The Summer Food Service Program (SFSP), at the Kansas State Department of Education, provides free, nutritious meals and snacks to help children in low-income areas get the nutrition they need to learn, play, and grow, throughout the summer months when they are out of school.

Free Summer Meal Program details:

- Meals are free to children and teens ages 18 and younger who come to a summer meals site.
- Free summer meals help families save money and stretch their already tight food budgets.
- Food served is healthy and follows USDA nutrition guidelines.
- Summer meals sites are at fun, safe places for kids and teens to be active and visit with friends.
- No application or proof of income needed.
- Click the Summer Food Service Program logo to learn more.

To learn more about the free Summer Meal Program click the logo above and download the Good for You Newsletter from the Kansas Department of Education.

Oral Health Organizations Partner to Bring New Grant Money to Kansas

Oral Health Kansas



Oral Health Kansas led the team of seven organizations that secured a \$570,000 grant from the DentaQuest Foundation. The grant is part of the DentaQuest Foundation's Oral Health 2020 initiative, which aims to eradicate dental disease in children and improve oral health across the lifespan by unifying the [oral health] network to achieve a bigger collective impact.

Kansas' proposal was unique among those received by the Foundation because the seven organizations applied as a group, united by a shared vision for oral health. Partners developed and will implement a collective impact model, use a shared measurement system for grant outcomes, conduct mutually supportive activities and interact continuously. The partners and the funder see this as a single project, rather than several separate ones. Building a proposal of this magnitude took 10 months. The organizations involved say good working relationships made the collaboration possible. Kansas' project will be funded for one year. All of the project partners believe that network building and systems change work is long and expect to be involved in this partnership far beyond the project's initial timeline.

"Our team is excited to join the DentaQuest Foundation's mission to improve the oral health of all people by 2020. By partnering with so many important stakeholders, we will be able to make a difference for vulnerable Kansas children and adults," said Oral Health Kansas' Executive Director Tanya Dorf Brunner.

The following organizations will partner on grant activities: Oral Health Kansas, the Kansas Association for the Medically Underserved (KAMU), the Kansas Department of Health and Environment's (KDHE) Bureau of Oral Health, and the Kansas Head Start Association. The Kansas Dental Association, the Kansas Chapter of the American Academy of Pediatrics and Riley County Perinatal Coalition are also collaborating on specific deliverables funded by the grant. Together, these organizations represent many of the state's key stakeholders in oral health; they have the capacity to affect change statewide and the reach to make population-level improvements in oral health.

"KAMU and our safety net clinics are excited to be part of this statewide approach to improving oral health in Kansas, as a healthy mouth is the start of a healthy body. By working together, we can achieve results that any one of our organizations could not do alone," said KAMU's Executive Director Denise Cyzman.



Dr. Cathleen Taylor-Osborne, Director, Bureau of Oral Health, KDHE said, "We look forward to collaborating with our partners to eradicate dental disease in children, improve the oral health of pregnant women, and support provider and family training and education in best oral health practices."

Help Save Lives and Prevent Injuries



Join the National Safety Council and thousands of organizations across the country as they work to raise awareness of what it takes to stay safe. Observed annually in June, National Safety Month focuses on reducing leading causes of injury and death at work, on the road and in our homes and communities.

ACCREDITATION CORNER

Deciphering the Performance Management Imperative

from the Public Health Foundation



In an article that appeared in the Annual Review of Public Health entitled, "Deciphering the Imperative: Translating Public Health Quality Improvement into Organizational Performance Management Gains," Public Health Foundation experts Les Beitsch and Jack Moran, and Tulane University public health professor Valerie Yeager, describe the logical connection between quality improvement practices and broader organizational performance management. [Download the journal article and learn more about the benefits of quality improvement](#) for national public health accreditation.

Community Health Improvement Navigator Launched

from Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC)

Invest in Your Community

Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) recently launched the [Community Health Improvement Navigator](#), a website for people who lead or participate in community health improvement work within hospitals and health systems, public health agencies, and other community organizations. It is a one-stop shop for expert-vetted tools and resources for making the case for collaborative approaches to community health improvement, establishing and maintaining effective collaborations, and finding interventions that work for the greatest impact on public health and well-being. There, you can also download related resources, including an [infographic](#) on considerations for improving community health, slides,

Knowledge Gained in the Accreditation Process by Serving as a PHAB Site Visitor

by Jane Shirley, Population Health Center Director

Local Public Health Program Director



The Public Health Accreditation Board (PHAB) and the accreditation process sets forth a set of standards, a system to measure a health department's performance in relationship to the standards and recognition for those health departments that meet the standards. PHAB accreditation is based on a peer review process.

Kansas is very fortunate to have several PHAB-trained, volunteer site visitors. Recently, at the Governor's Public Health Conference in Wichita, a meeting was held to begin to define possible roles that this group could serve in consultation with the Kansas public health system and health departments.

Trained site visitors in Kansas include:

- Dick Morrissey
- Marvin Stottlemire
- Kate Watson
- Shirley Orr
- Sonja Armbruster
- Tanya Honderick
- Brenda Nickel
- Gianfranco Pezzino
- Midge Ransom
- Jane Shirley

The experience of serving as a site visitor is rewarding and provides the opportunity to network with other public health leaders, to gain in-depth knowledge about the accreditation process and learn about new, innovative and promising practices in public health. For information, contact Jeff Lake, PHAB Volunteer Services Manager at jlake@phaboard.org, or via phone at 703-778-4549, ext. 110.

To Boost Public Health - Get Past Popularity

THE LANCET Convincing a large group of people to change its behavior doesn't come down to popularity, *a new study shows*. Certain public health interventions work best when key "influencers" in a face-to-face social network are exposed to the program, researchers find. What's surprising, they say, is that those key influencers are not the most socially connected people in the network. Furthermore, those individuals can be identified through a survey method informed by network structure rather than costly and time-consuming social network mapping. The result is a cascade of behavior changes that boosts the efficiency and reach of certain programs.

Community Health Status Indicators Online Tool Updated



The Centers for Disease Control and Prevention recently released the updated Community Health Status Indicators (CHSI) online tool that produces public health profiles for every county in the United States. This app includes key indicators and factors that affect health outcomes such as health care access, health behaviors, social factors, and the physical environment. The CHSI 2015 tool also offers the ability to compare the health status of counties across the United States. Click the CDC logo to access the tool.

KHI Shares CHA, CHIP and Strategic Plan Tools

by Sarah Hartsig, Analyst, Kansas Health Institute



In 2012, the Kansas Health Foundation made a generous grant to the Kansas Health Institute (KHI) to support progress toward community health needs assessments (CHA/CHNA), community health improvement plans (CHIP), and strategic plans for local public health departments and for non-profit hospitals. In collaboration with the Area Health Education Centers (University of Kansas Medical Center), the Kansas Association of Local Health Departments and the KDHE, KHI has worked on a variety of initiatives to assist local health departments in preparing for accreditation and non-profit hospitals in fulfilling the Internal Revenue Service reporting standards as outlined in the Affordable Care Act. KHI announces the completion of two sets of resources to assist hospitals and health departments make progress toward the CHA, CHIP, and Strategic Plan.

First, a new online course on the basics of completing a strategic plan for local health agencies has now been released at <https://ks.train.org/>, course ID# 1056998. This training will provide information, general steps, tools and guidance that assist local health departments to conduct a department strategic planning process guided by PHAB requirements. This course builds on previous courses that introduced the CHA and CHIP, course ID# 1052000 and 1052243, respectively.

Second, KHI and its partners developed guidance documents for the CHA, CHIP, and strategic plan as part of the project activities. These documents guide agencies through the essential steps of completing each step in the accreditation process. The handbooks can be downloaded for use by clicking below, or from the [Kansas Health Matters](#) website. Contact Sarah Hartsig, KHI analyst at shartsig@khi.org for more information.

[Download the CHA Handbook](#)

[Download the CHIP Handbook](#)

[Download the Strategic Plan Handbook](#)

Funding Opportunities

Kansas Health Foundation's Recognition Grants - Deadline September 15



Applications for the fall 2015 cycle of the Kansas Health Foundation's Recognition Grant program are due by September 15. Recognition Grants expand the Foundation's support to a broad range of organizations throughout the state. The grants are targeted to organizations and agencies proposing meaningful and charitable projects that fit within the Foundation's mission of improving the health of all Kansans. In addition to supporting projects, the Foundation also seeks to support initiatives that focus on promoting policy, systems and environmental (PSE) transformations that support health. To learn more, visit the official [Recognition Grant home page](#) for complete information.

Training and Conference Announcements

Great Plains Public Health Leadership Institute Scholarships Available - Deadline June 26

by Kathleen Brandert, Director

Great Plains Public Health Leadership Institute



The Great Plains Public Health Leadership Institute (GPPHLI) is a yearlong program for leaders in public health who are interested in enhancing their knowledge base and skill sets in key leadership areas. Over the course of 12 months, scholars in the Institute put attention and focus on self, "Who am I as a leader; What style/s do I use to lead; others, "How can I build effective teams; How does my leadership affect others in my organization," and the public health system, "How can I influence the public health system through my leadership."

The Institute features:

- Three multi-day onsite intensives
- Nine distance-based topical webinars
- At least three leadership assessments, including a 360° assessment
- Development of a team project
- Experience with a mentor
- Experience with peer coaching
- Access to executive coaching services
- Access to faculty nationwide with expertise in leadership

Applications for Year 11 of GPPHLI are due June 26. Stipends are available through the Kansas Department of Health and Environment for those living in and/or serving rural areas of Kansas.

More information about curriculum, the scholar experience, and application materials can be found online at www.greatplainsleadership.org or by contacting Kathleen Brandert, GPPHLI Director, at kbrandert@unmc.edu or 402-552-7256.

ADA National Network/FEMA Webinar Series:

FEMA Promising Practice: Overnight Shelter Experiences - July 9



There are many reasons to undertake an exercise such as the Overnight Shelter Exercise with the Disability Community, such as, the lack of appropriate and accessible services in shelters is a violation of civil rights law, but more importantly, one in five people encountered during any disaster will have a disability or about 56.7 million people, approximately 19 percent of the population, had a disability in 2010. Many first responders lack familiarity and working knowledge they require to successfully integrate all members of the community in all aspects of the work they do. The shelter exercise was an opportunity to fully exercise all aspects of evacuation in real time with community participants and gain needed capacity and competency while also learning lessons and identifying gaps in the process. Working together and exercising capacity and resources ultimately saves lives.

Learning objectives for this webinar are:

- Participants will learn how to plan an overnight exercise with the disability community
- Participants will hear about the challenges encountered in the process and learn how to overcome them
- Participants will come away with the tools necessary to replicate this activity in the local community
- Check out these webinars if you are involved in developing collaborative leadership among professionals and organizations involved in crisis leadership and emergency management capacity development. Click the Pacific Americans with Disabilities Center logo to learn more about this and other available training opportunities.

Enhancing the Effectiveness of Public Health Mutual Aid through EMAC Mission Ready Packages Webinar - July 10



On July 10 from 1-2 p.m., the National Emergency Management Association is hosting the webinar "Enhancing the Effectiveness of Public Health Mutual Aid through EMAC Mission Ready Packages." Gerrit Bakker, the Association of State and Territorial Health Officers Director of Public Health Preparedness and Security, will be discussing the development of Emergency Management Assistance Compact (EMAC) mission-ready package templates for medical and public health resources. Victoria Carpenter, EMAC Executive Task Force chair, will highlight some of the 13 EMAC Articles of Agreement that provide protections for deploying personnel in an emergency. Click the logo for registration information.

A New National Plan for Alzheimer's Disease Research, Care and Services

from VHA TRAIN



The World Health Organization recently reported that dementia, Alzheimer's is the most common type, is a worldwide public health crisis, and no nation is prepared. There have been significant developments in research, and results differ with commonly held former beliefs. This archived webinar will provide participants with a working knowledge of key facts regarding the burden of Alzheimer's Disease; an overview of the new National Action Plan to Address Alzheimer's Disease; and the evidence-base for early detection and caregiver supports. Go to <http://ks.train.org>, Course ID #1041879.

The Leadership Learning Collaborative (LLC) Webinar Series:



Leadership Learning Collaborate partners have produced a wide range of high-quality webinars, including sessions on collective leadership, systems thinking, and leadership networks. You can find upcoming webinars and archived webinars by clicking the Leadership Learning logo.

Health Literacy Training

from CDC



Training in health literacy, plain language, and cultural communication is essential for anyone working in health information and services. Whether you are new to these topics, need a refresher, or want to train your entire staff, these five e-learning courses from the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention are a great place to start.

Quitline Provider Training

by the Bureau of Health Promotion



The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) is offering a free comprehensive online training on Brief Tobacco Intervention techniques to help health care providers work with patients to quit tobacco. The interactive training takes approximately 45 minutes. The online training can be used by a wide range of providers including doctors, nurses, front office staff, dentists, dental hygienists and respiratory therapists.

The training includes two audio clips of Quitline phone counseling sessions and demonstrations of clinicians delivering the brief intervention to a tobacco user and is available at www.kstobaccointervention.org.

At the conclusion of the educational offering providers will be able to:

- Use the brief tobacco intervention with all patients who use tobacco
- Refer patients who are ready to quit to the Kansas Tobacco Quitline
- Describe Food and Drug Administration approved cessation pharmacotherapy
- Describe the benefits of the Kansas Tobacco Quitline

The training is has been accredited by the American Academy of Family Physicians for CME accreditation and the Kansas Dental Board.

Time Management Tips To Complete An Online Course



A key issue for online learners, especially part-time online learners who must balance study or continuing education with work, is time management. Here are several strategies that can help online learners manage time in order to successfully complete an online course. Click the logo to read the complete article.

News and Resources



Population Health and Preparedness Statewide Call

The Kansas Department of Health and Environment (KDHE) hosts a Population Health and Preparedness Statewide Call on the fourth Tuesday of every month at 10 a.m. The next call will be July 23. To view minutes from the monthly calls, click the KDHE logo.

Unequal Beginnings: A Child's Long-Term Well-Being Is More Profoundly Shaped by Influences in Pregnancy Than Used To Be Realized



A growing body of research is showing that problems caused by the prenatal environment may not be apparent at birth, but can resonate throughout life. Infections, hunger, stress and air pollution have been implicated in a host of long-term problems for those exposed to them in utero, including bad health, poor school results and lower earnings. Click the logo for more information.

SNS Bridging Gaps in National Preparedness



When the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention's Strategic National Stockpile (SNS), originally named the National Pharmaceutical Stockpile (NPS), was established in 1999, the primary emphasis was on acquiring pharmaceuticals and other medical material to rapidly deploy to the site of a national health emergency. Although still in the business of stockpiling product for large-scale public health responses, the organization's focus has shifted to the value partnerships bring to the national public health landscape. As the largest stockpile in the United States, the SNS has evolved into a key player in facilitating partnerships and bridging gaps in national preparedness. For example, through assessments, supply gaps were identified that allowed SNS staff to provide expert advice to industry partners so they could strategically allocate scarce materials to places, defined by the National Tiered Strategy Framework, most likely to encounter an Ebola case in the United States and who needed additional PPE supplies. Click the logo to read the complete article.

OSHA Releases Hospital Respiratory Protection Toolkit



The Occupational Safety and Health Administration and the National Institute for Occupational Safety and Health recently released the [Hospital Respiratory Protection Toolkit](#), a resource for healthcare employers to use to protect hospital staff from respiratory hazards. This toolkit is an important resource to help ensure healthcare workers are out of harm's way when it comes to respiratory hazards. The toolkit covers respirator use, existing public health guidance on respirator use during exposure to infectious diseases, hazard assessment, the development of a hospital respiratory protection program, and additional resources and references on hospital respiratory protection programs. Appendix D is an editable [document](#) that each hospital can customize to meet its specific needs. To supplement the toolkit, The Joint Commission developed an educational monograph, [Implementing Hospital Respiratory Protection Programs: Strategies from the Field](#), to assist hospitals in implementing respiratory protection programs. The monograph, produced in collaboration with NIOSH's National Personal Protective Technology Laboratory, identifies common implementation challenges, provides specific examples of innovative strategies from healthcare organizations and examines the role of leadership, quality improvement, fit testing and training challenges, and program evaluation.

Tackling Risks Associated with Diabetes Using a Population Health Driver Diagram



The Public Health Foundation, with support from the Robert Wood Johnson Foundation, is developing and using a [population health driver diagram](#) framework to address prevention, control, treatment and reduction of severe complications associated with diabetes. The driver diagram can be used in communities to help achieve health objectives at the crossroads of public health and health care. [Find out where this new Diabetes Population Health Driver Diagram will be used](#) to achieve greater health equity and improve the value of community health investments. Click the logo for more information.

National ASK Day is June 21



Gun injury or death is a public health issue impacting Americans across the country. Fortunately, there are things we can start doing today to help reduce the risk of gun injury and death in our homes and communities. The Asking Saves Kids (ASK) Campaign is one such solution. ASK promotes a simple idea with the potential to help keep kids safe — it encourages parents to ask, "Is there an unlocked gun where my child plays?" The first day of summer, June 21, is National ASK Day. Help raise awareness of this life-saving issue by sharing the ASK message on social media using [#ASKingSavesKids](#). Visit www.asksaveskids.org for sample social media posts and other helpful resources.

CDC Public Health Grand Rounds: What to Know About Mosquito-borne Illnesses

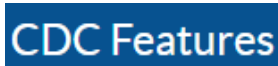


“It doesn’t have to do with how many mosquito bites you have,” Marc Fischer, MD, MPH, of the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) said of mosquito-borne illnesses such as dengue and chikungunya. “You get bitten, get an infection and it all has to do with how your body responds.”

At the CDC monthly Public Health Grand Rounds (PHGR), Fischer and other public health experts discussed the origins, causes and symptoms of the illnesses, along with methods of prevention relating to each. Chikungunya originated in both Africa and Asia, while dengue originated in Africa. While cases have been reported in Europe and the United States these viruses are mostly contained to tropical and sub-tropical areas, including Puerto Rico. According to Thomas W. Scott, PhD, of the University of California, Davis Department of Entomology and Nematology, stored water — such as rainwater — left in discarded items becomes a breeding ground for mosquitoes, as do urban areas that lack a consistent water supply, solid waste disposal and have substandard housing.

Dengue accounts for almost 100 million illnesses per year, with 3.6 billion people worldwide potentially at risk, and 5 to 10 percent of symptomatic patients develop a severe disease. Click the Public Health Newswire to view the PHGR Presentation.

Looking for Healthy Swimming Resources



Pools, waterparks, hot tubs/spas, splash pads, and [water playgrounds](#) are great places to have fun, be active, or just relax. Having fun while you [swim this summer](#) means knowing how to stay healthy and safe while enjoying the water. Swimming is one of the most popular sports activities in the United States. Just 2.5 hours of water-based (or other forms of) physical activity per week has [health benefits](#), we each need to do our part to minimize the risk of illness and injury. Click the logo for more information.

Childhood Adversity Narratives Resource for Policymakers



[The Childhood Adversity Narratives \(CAN\)](#) is a resource to inform policymakers and the public about the costs and consequences of child maltreatment and adversity. Given national discussion about many aspects of child trauma—including related [Adverse Childhood Experiences \(ACE\) Study](#) and other educational and policy activities—authors Frank Putnam, MD, William Harris, PhD, Alicia Lieberman, PhD, Karen Putnam, PhD, and Lisa Amaya-Jackson, MD have created a useful resource to address the different approaches and terms used regarding these issues, highlight the findings of the original ACE study and its replicated research, and provide related information and resources. The authors hope to set the stage for enhanced discussion of national and state solutions, including those that are available through the National Child Traumatic Stress Network. The CAN authors invite others to use these materials in ways that benefit children and families who have experienced any childhood adversities. Click [here](#) to access to a PDF of the information, while related slides and additional information are available at www.CANarratives.org.

Tobacco Use Among Middle and High School Students in the United States 2011 - 2014

[Morbidity and Mortality Weekly Report \(MMWR\)](#) To determine the prevalence and trends of current, past 30 - day, use of nine tobacco products including cigarettes, cigars, smokeless tobacco, e-cigarettes, hookahs, tobacco pipes, snus, dissolvable tobacco, and bidis, among U.S. middle (grades 6 - 8) and high school (grades 9 -12) students, the Centers for Disease Control and Prevention (CDC) and the Food and Drug Administration (FDA) analyzed data from the 2011 -2014 National Youth Tobacco Surveys (NYTS). In 2014, e-cigarettes were the most commonly used tobacco product among middle school students at 3.9 percent, and high school students were 13.4 percent. Between 2011 and 2014, statistically significant increases were observed among these students for current use of both e-cigarettes and hookahs ($p<0.05$), while decreases were observed for current use of more traditional products, such as cigarettes and cigars, resulting in no change in overall tobacco use. Click the MMWR logo for the complete article.

National Asthma Control Program Shares Resources



The National Asthma Control Program (NACP) helps people with asthma and their caregivers learn how to manage asthma. In the United States, 25 million people live with asthma—about half of them do not have control over preventable attacks. Many factors contribute to poor asthma control. [Access these resources](#) and help your patients learn how to better manage their asthma.

Job Postings

Applications are being accepted for the positions listed below.

Butler County Health Department

- [Nutrition Education Dietitian](#)

City-Cowley County Health Department

- [Administrator/Health Officer](#)

Finney County Health Department

- [Staff RN](#)

Pottawatomie County Health Department

- [Public Health Nurse](#)

Reno County Health Department

- [Environmental Health Tech](#)
- [Health Educator](#)
- [Public Health Nurse Stand by \(PRN\)](#)

Sedgwick County Health Department

- [Medical Assistant](#)

Shawnee County Health Agency

- [RN \(Primary Care-Women's Health-Float\)](#)
- [RN MCH Outreach \(Health Agency\)](#)
- [Social Worker-MSW-LHD](#)

Wyandotte County

- [Deputy Director](#)
- [Nurse Practitioner](#)



Career opportunities at the Kansas Department of Health and Environment can be found [here](#).

Kansas Department of Health and Environment Program Newsletters

[Epi Updates Newsletter](#)

[Health Homes Herald](#)

[KanCare Advisor](#)

[Kansas Environmental News](#)

[Kansas Health Statistics Report](#)

[Newborn Screening Newsletter](#)

[Kansas Statewide Farmworker Health Program](#)

[Nutrition and WIC Update](#)

[ZIPS Newsletter - Bureau of Family Health/Children and Families](#)

[Green Guide](#)

[What's Happening Wednesday \(Immunization\)](#)

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http://www.kdheks.gov/olrh/public_health_connections.htm

Send your public health news to

Debbie Nickels at dnickels@kdheks.gov.